



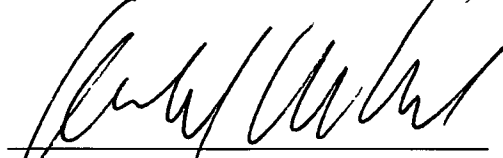
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, reference **BA** submitted herewith is discussed in the specification for this application. References **AA** and **BA - BK** submitted herewith were cited by the International Search Authority (ISA/EP) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty in the International Search Report and/or Written Opinion of January 18, 2005 (copies enclosed) for the corresponding PCT application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the space adjacent to each document on the PTO-1449 form and return a copy of the PTO-1449 form to confirm that these documents have been considered by the Examiner and made of record in this application.

Although we believe that we have appropriately provided for any fees due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any deficiencies to/from our **Deposit Account No. 503596**. Two originally-executed copies of this form are being submitted.

Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (508) 898-8603.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number 10/571,721

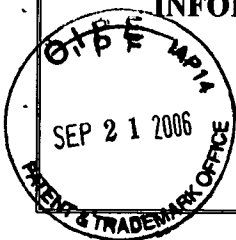
Filing Date March 13, 2006

First Named Inventor Mikio INOUE

Art Unit To be assigned

Examiner Name To be assigned

Attorney Docket No. VPM-00601

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT***(Use as many sheets as necessary)***U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS *	ATTY. CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE/PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF APPLICANT OF CITED DOCUMENT	CLASS	SUB- CLASS
/O.A./	AA	2002/081997A1	06-27-2002	Morishima		

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS *	ATTY. CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO
/O.A./	BA	2001-021992	01-26-2001	JP	X	
/O.A./	BB	2000-236375	08-29-2000	JP	X	
/O.A./	BC	2001-197167	07-19-2001	JP	X	
/O.A./	BD	09-327007	12-16-1997	JP	X	
/O.A./	BE	2002-152328	05-24-2002	JP	X	
/O.A./	BF	1 206 102 A2	05-15-2002	EPO		
/O.A./	BG	07-058814	03-03-1995	JP	X	
/O.A./	BH	07-046556	02-14-1995	JP	X	
/O.A./	BI	2002-027060	01-25-2002	JP	X	
/O.A./	BJ	2002-077327	03-15-2002	JP	X	
/O.A./	BK	2001-189789	07-10-2001	JP	X	

**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS *	ATTY. CITE NO.	INCLUDE AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, VOL/ISSUE NO., COUNTRY OF PUBLICATION, PAGES, ETC.

**EXAMINER SIGNATURE:** /Olumide Ajibade Akonai/**DATE CONSIDERED:** 04/03/2008

\*EXAMINER: Initial if referenced considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.